



State of Arizona

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Office of the Governor
1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Main Phone: 602-542-4331
Facsimile: 602-542-7601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 23, 2012

CONTACT: Ann Dockendorff
(602) 542-7029
adockendorff@az.gov

Statement by Governor Jan Brewer
Mourning the Loss of Seven U.S. Marines Near Yuma, Arizona

"Today is a tragic day for our State and our Nation. Last night, seven U.S. Marines were killed in a fatal helicopter collision in California's Chocolate Mountains near Yuma, Arizona. The aircraft were conducting training operations near the Yuma Training Range Complex at approximately 9 p.m. MST when the incident occurred.

"This tragedy serves as another stark and sad reminder of the peril our men and women in uniform encounter on a daily basis – not only abroad, but on our own soil. It also reminds us that, whether in combat or training, no military mission is ever routine. We must never take for granted nor forget these soldiers' sacrifice and service to the United States of America.

"So, with a sad and heavy heart, I ask you to join me in praying for these Marines, their loved ones and all of our servicemen and women who risk their lives daily to protect ours."

###